United Nations A/68/810–S/2014/207

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
25 March 2014
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 110
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Sixty-ninth year

Identical letters dated 21 March 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I write further to our letters concerning the activities of terrorist groups and entities associated with Al-Qaida in the Syrian Arab Republic, activities in which the Turkish Government is directly involved. On instructions from my Government, I wish to transmit the following information.

Certain States within and beyond the region are working continuously to undermine the political solution to the crisis in Syria. They have persistently opted for violence and terrorism. This morning, armed terrorist groups, most of whose members belonged to the terrorist organizations Nusrah Front and Army of Islam, infiltrated the country from Turkish territory. They attacked the Syrian side, arriving from the Syrian-Turkish border crossing in the Kassab area of northern Ladhiqiyah governorate. When Syrian Arab Army units responded, the Turkish Army provided cover and logistical and military support for the terrorist attack.

Turkey's position underscores its ongoing support for terrorism in the region and its military backing for Al-Qaida and associated organizations, whatever their nomenclature. It contravenes the principles of international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the foundations of friendly and neighbourly relations between States.

There can be no question that, by facilitating the passage into Syria of thousands of foreign terrorists, extremists and mercenaries from around the world, and by providing them with funds, weapons and other forms of direct support, the Turkish authorities have flagrantly violated the international counter-terrorism instruments and the relevant Security Council resolutions, particularly resolution 1267 (1999), 1373 (2001), and 1624 (2005), all of which affirm that all United Nations Member States must refrain from providing any form of support, funding or facilitation, active or passive, to entities or persons involved in terrorist acts.

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The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic calls on the Security Council to condemn this terrorist attack on Syrian territory from Turkish territory; to condemn Turkey's involvement in, facilitation of and cover for the attack; and to prevail on the Turkish authorities to refrain from providing any form of support, active or passive, for the terrorist activities perpetrated in Syria with the support of Arab, regional and Western States by terrorist groups affiliated with Al-Qaida and its ideology.

The Syrian Arab Republic reiterates that double standards regarding terrorism against the State and people of Syria will only undermine efforts towards a political solution. As a result, terrorism will spread to other countries, particularly those neighbouring States that provide shelter, training and weapons to terrorists and enable them to illegally cross the border into Syria. The effect will be to undermine peace and security in the region and the world.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 110, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative